

**Public Informational Meeting
City of Adams**

September 6, 2006

These are the minutes of the Public Informational Meeting of the City of Adams, WI held on September 6, 2006 in the City Municipal Building.

The Public Meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Romell. Attending were Alderpersons Eggebrecht, Hardin, Jensen, LaQueue, Sherd, Mayor Romell, Attorney Pollex, and Administrator Ellisor. Others present were Representative Marlin Schneider, Professor George Kraft, John Hay, and many citizens.

The Informational meeting was held to provide information on the City's groundwater supply and the effects of high volume water use.

Professor Kraft presented information on existing groundwater conditions of the area. He explained what groundwater is, what happens when groundwater is pumped, and what the impact is when pumping groundwater on surface water. He stated that the average precipitation is 30 inches in Wisconsin. Approximately 1 inch runs off into lakes and streams, mostly at the time the snow melts. The remaining 29 inches percolates into the soil. About 10 inches drains through the soil to the top of the aquifer (water table). The water table is the top of the sub-surface zone, where the cracks in the rocks and the spaces between sand grains are saturated with water. The groundwater is pumped with wells. Flows from areas higher on the landscape (recharge areas) to areas lower on the landscape (discharge areas).

Another discharge that interrupts the natural flow of groundwater is wells. Irrigation come from groundwater, municipalities use groundwater as their municipal water source. Groundwater feeds lakes and streams. In Adams County, the discharge area includes streams. There is a dividing line through Adams, the water on one side of the line flows eastward to Lake Michigan and the water on the other side of the line ends up flowing into creeks, lakes, streams, into the Wisconsin River and eventually into the Gulf of Mexico.

With the type of highly prolific aquifer we have here, this is not much of a concern of near by wells drying up. Also, the release of toxins is not a concern. The City's wells intercept groundwater that would flow to the Little Roche-a-Cri Creek.

He stated there was a previous study preformed earlier in the year, which the results were distributed to those attending. He stated that the fraction of the stream flow lost from Little Roche-a-Cri Creek by pumping 50 million gallons of water per year (0.21 cubic feet per second) is relatively small, amount 0.6% of a 32 cubic feet per second flow. He stated this amount of water is the amount of water a 200 acre irrigated crop uses.

Professor Kraft answered many questions from the audience.

John Hay was present to discuss and answer questions concerning Emerald Canada LTD. He presented statistics on the proposed building and employment. The building will be a minimum of 100,000–150,000 Square feet with a value of \$5,000,000-\$8,000,000. This business would create 50 new jobs within a couple of years, 25 at start up, with a wage range from \$11.00-\$30.00 an hour with benefits such as "Shares" in the company. He also stated that he was told by Emerald that they will not be bring any people down with them, all employees will be hired from the area. The City would receive \$35,000 annually, based on the 50 million gallons for water use. Mr. Hay stated that Emerald hopes to bring in another company with them, creating more employment.

Mr. Hay answered many questions from the audience.

Having no further comments or questions, Mayor Romell adjourned the Public Informational Meeting.

Janet Winters
Clerk/Treasurer